

[6 March, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(iv) Remedial Coaching SC and ST students	0.40 for	0.50	5.00	3.70	12.02	8.03
(v) Coaching classes for Entry in services	0.50	—	3.00	1.02	1.88	3.59
(vi) Coaching for NET for ST/ST students	—	—	2.00	1.28	1.24	1.05

*Includes unspent balance State share released.

Besides above, Kendriya Vidyalays and all Centrally funded institutions have provisions for reservation for SCs & STs to the extent of 15% and 7.5% respectively for which admission norms are also relaxed to ensure fulfilment of reservation.

Therefore, benefits and expenditure flow to SC and ST students proportionate to the actual enrolment under these schemes. Other benefits are: relaxed norms for opening primary/middle schools in area inhabited by SCs and STs, freeships/scholarship/fellowships, uniforms, stationery, school bags, relaxation in cut-off marks for certain disadvantaged groups, preparation of text books in tribal languages, etc.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Low morale of B.Sc. students

628. SHRIMATI S. G INDIRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the science academicians feel that the low morale of B.Sc. students is a working feature of the higher education scenario;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large number of college students pursuing B.Sc. degrees are left out and discarded by the system; and

(c) if so, the corrective action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) According to information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), there is no indication to suggest a low morale amongst Science students in the University system. On the contrary, the prevailing trends are indicative of high demand of science based courses among the students.

Issue of photo identity cards

†629. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of voters in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the number of voters who have got photo identity cards in the country, State-wise;
- (c) whether Central Government have released the fifty per cent share of the total cost to all the States for this purpose; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The State-wise number of voters and the number of voters having photo-identity cards in the country is given in the Statement (*See* below)..

(c) and (d) The Union Government has so far released a total sum of Rs. 644,27,00,000/- on provisional basis since the financial year 1994-95 upto 2006-07 towards the scheme of issuance of Photo Identity Cards to Voters. In respect of four State Governments, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Orissa and Tamil Nadu, there is a provisional liability of the Government of India aggregating to around Rs. 30.91 crores to be discharged, which will be partially diluted during the current financial year itself, notwithstanding the facts that the accounts of these States are pending settlement since the past few years due to non-receipt of Audit Certificates and on receipt of the same it is likely that the actual liability will be considerably reduced. In so far as the other States are concerned, the provisional releases made to them since 1994-95 still remain un-utilized and are lying in excess in most of the cases, for being adjusted against future expenditure on this account.